

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
THRU: Assistant Deputy (Inspection and Security)
SUBJECT: Classification of FDD Reports from Soviet Publications

20 Sep 51

1. Problem: Should the existing restriction limiting the minimum classification on FDD reports from Soviet publications be removed?

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2. Discussion: In 1948 all extracts of the Soviet press and abstracts of foreign periodicals were reported and published by the Foreign Documents Division in periodical publications classified only as "Restricted." [redacted]

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[redacted] that all extracts from Soviet press would be classified "Secret" and periodical abstracts a minimum of "Confidential" in order to protect overt sources of document procurement and to preserve the security of our interest in Soviet published information. (See Appendix A)

In the intervening period the format of FDD's reporting from Soviet publications has changed to individual extracts, which do not involve the security problems of disclosing our requirements. Most Soviet titles are available to the public. In order that maximum dissemination of such reports may be effected to those who need the information, it is now desirable that the restriction of minimum classification of "Secret" be removed. [redacted]

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3. Recommendation: It is recommended that the existing restriction of minimum classification of "Secret" be rescinded and that FDD be authorized to classify individual extracts and translations from Soviet published sources in accordance with the nature of the information and the security of particular sources.

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GEORGE G. CAREY

Assistant Director for Operations

APPROVED:

S/ [redacted]
Spec. Asst. & Consultant, DCI

Enclosures: 3
Memo. 30 Dec 1948 from
Exec. for I&S to DCI

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F. [redacted]
Distribution:

Orig. & 1 - Addressee
Approved For Release 2002/09/04 : ~~SECRET~~ 81-00706R000300110045-5

Original of this memo and orig. of attachments sent to FDD 18 October
written approval is on original set.
ACG

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Director of Central Intelligence

4 Oct 57

Security Officer, CIA

Classification of Individual Extracts from Soviet Publications

REFERENCE: Memorandum dated 20 September 1951 to Director of Central Intelligence through Assistant Deputy (Inspection and Security) from George G. Carey, Assistant Director for Operations

1. This office concurs in the recommendation of the Assistant Director/00, that FDD be authorized to classify individual extracts and translations from Soviet published sources, in accordance with the nature of the information and the security of the particular sources.

SIGNED

SHEFFIELD FIELDS
Colonel, GSC

Enclosures: 3
Memo. 30 Dec. 1948 from
Exec. for I&S to DCI

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cc: AD/00 ✓

*copy sent 9 Oct
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Appendix "A"

3 January 1949

MEMORANDUM TO: Asst. Director for Operations
Asst. Director for Collection and Dissemination
Asst. Director for Reports and Estimates

SUBJECT : Higher Classification of CIA Exploitation of Soviet
Russian Language Material

REFERENCE : Memo to DCI from Chief, Inspection and Security,
subject as above, dated 30 December 1948

1. The recommendations contained in paragraph 8 of above reference, copies of which were furnished you by I & S, have been approved by the Director.

2. The original correspondence bearing the Director's approval has been returned to the Chief, Inspection and Security.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

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/s/

[Redacted Signature]

Executive

cc: Chief, I & S

SECRET

Director of Central Intelligence

30 December 1948

Executive for Inspection and Security

Higher Classification of CIA Exploitation of Soviet Russian
Language Material.

1. The enclosures raise the following problem of policy:

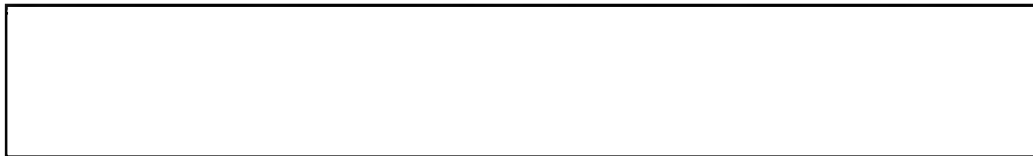
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2. Recent policy actions bearing on the above recommendation have been taken as follows:

- a. The Deputy Director has orally directed the AD/00 to raise the classification of FDB Soviet Press Extracts from CONFIDENTIAL to SECRET.


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3. There remain the following matters to be considered:

- a. Raising the classification of the following FDB publications:

Bibliography of Russian Periodicals -- now UNCLASSIFIED.
Periodical Abstracts (General Series) -- now RESTRICTED.
Periodical Abstracts (Scientific Series) -- now RESTRICTED.
Translation & Information Reports -- now RESTRICTED

- b. Whether the recommendation  should be extended to include FDB publications derived from overt sources in satellite countries.

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4. Comments are made in the attached papers regarding possible complaints arising because of distribution restrictions caused by up-grading of FDB material. To be balanced against this possible adverse

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reaction is the analysis made by FDB that CIA's receipt of Soviet periodicals and newspapers is constantly decreasing. [REDACTED]

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5. Attached are statements from State, Army and Air Force saying that for use within their Departments they would have no objections to raising the classifications of FDB material to SECRET. State makes the point that if the increased classification resulted in a diminishing of information to non-IAC agencies it might have to resort to its own dissemination arrangements in order to fulfill its responsibility. It is not believed that State would have to resort to this action as long as CIA continues to furnish the Library of Congress with microfilm copies of Soviet periodicals and newspapers, and as long as the Library of Congress continues to publish the List of Russian Accessions which is available for governmental and public use.

6. The Bibliography of Russian Periodicals contains only blanket listings in English of the table of contents of various Russian periodicals; it does not reveal intelligence requirements. While the bibliography is derived from all overtly procured Russian periodicals, yet, as presently published and disseminated, there is no indication that it was originated by CIA. If the bibliography were classified, the Library of Congress would continue to publish in its List of Russian Accessions a similar product in unclassified transliterated Russian. It is believed, therefore, that security would not be improved by classifying the bibliography.

7. OO believes that security and operating efficiency can be improved if Periodical Abstracts (General Series) were discontinued and replaced by individual extracts. Almost as much time is now taken up in preparing abstracts as is consumed in complying with ensuing requests for complete extracts. Time and work would be saved and security improved if extracts were prepared in the first place, and their dissemination directed to primarily interested addresses.

8. The Assistant Directors OO, OCD and ORE have concurred in the following recommended actions:

a. The Bibliography of Russian Periodicals remain UNCLASSIFIED.

b. Periodical Abstracts (General Series) be discontinued and replaced by the issuance of separate extracts classified individually according to source and subject matter, with CONFIDENTIAL as a minimum.

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c. Periodical Abstracts (Scientific Series) be upgraded to SECRET.

d. Translation and Information Reports be classified individually according to source and subject matter, with CONFIDENTIAL as a minimum.

e. OO be directed to: (1) Survey the problem of procurement of satellite publications from the point of view of security of source; (2) Classify information extracted from such sources in accordance with the results of the survey.

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Acting Executive for I. & S.

cc to:

Assistant Director, OO
Assistant Director, OCD
Assistant Director, ORE

Enclosures:

Memo. 5 Nov. 1948 from AD/OO
to DCI, through AD/OCD and
Exec. for I. & S.
Memo. 15 Nov. 1948 from Ch.,
A & D Div., State Dept.
Memo. 13 Dec. 1948 from
Chief, IG, Dept. Army, to
AD/OCD
Memo. 22 Dec. 1948 from
CS, Air Force to DCI

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